selected growtwth centres viz. Bawal (Haryana) and Simla (Himachal Prades); and

(c) what sort of facilities incentives, subsidies, financial help|assistance are being offered to the entrepreneurs by the Central|State Governments for setting up of Industries in such backward growth centres?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI P. J. KURIEN): (a) Under the Growth Centre Scheme, Central assisttance is released only after the project reports for the seleced growth centres are duly appraised and approved. Government have so far approved Project Reports of Growth Centres at Borai, Kheda, Ghirongi, Chainpura and Siltara in Madhya Pradesh, Hassan, Dharwar and Gillesugar in Karnataka, Pathankot and Bhatinda in Punjab and Sambha in J & K and an amount of Rs. 17 crores has been released towards Central assistance for these growth centres.

(b) The project reort for the growth centre at Bawal (Haryana) has not been approved as yet. In respect of Himachal Pradesh, Kangra has now been identified as the location for the only growth centre sanctioned for the State.

(c) The growth centres would be developed at a cost of Rs. 25—30 crores each to be funded jointly by the Central Government, State Government and All India Financial Institutions. The growth centre would be provided with basic infrastructural facilities like, power, water, telecommunications, banks etc, so as to attract industries in these areas.

2412. [*Transferred to the 17th March,* 1992].

**Equipment Leasing Scheme of NSIDC**

2413. SHRI ASHOK NATH VERMA:

SHRIMATI PRATIBHA SINGH:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Small Industries Development Corporation (NSIDC) has been directed to review Equipment Leasing Scheme to accommodate new financially viable SSI units beside existing units under the new Industrial Policy for small sector announced in August 1991, to generate higher growth rate of employment and eradicate poverty irrespective of the project cost but within the ceiling limits of small sector;

(b) if answer to part (a) above be in the negative what economic and financial loss NSIDC would incur under its equipment leasing scheme to economical viable new SSI units; and

(c) what remedial measures Government have taken or propose to take to liberalise equipments leasing scheme of NSIDC for new small sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI P. J. KURIEN): (a) and (b) No Sir, NSIC, being a service organisation provides support to small scale sector through its various schemes. Among others, NSIC provides lease financing to the existing viable small scale units which require additional equipment. The emphasis under the scheme is to promote modernisation| diversification|expansion of the existing production facilities in the small scale sector.

With a view to help establishment of new small and ancillary industries, the Corporation operates, a 'Hire Purchase Scheme' which is considered advantageous to the first generation entrepreneurs.

(c) At present, there is no such proposal under consideration of the Government.